

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:HRMELONE:JR

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205759

FOLLOWING SENT AMCONSUL ASMARA INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
FROM SECSTATE WASHDC 17 OCT 73 (171834Z OCT 73):

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205759

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, ET, US

SUBJECT: GOVGEN COMMENTS ON MAP

REF: ASMARA 0751; ADDIS ABABA 11556

1. GOVGEN'S COMMENTS REFLECT WIDESPREAD MISCONCEPTION ON
PART OF MANY COUNTRIES THAT AS RESULT OF CESSATION OF U.S.
ACTIVITY IN VIETNAM, U.S. HAS LARGE QUANTITIES OF EXCESS
MILITARY EQUIPMENT. DOD HAS ADVISED DEPARTMENT THAT MOST
MILITARY EQUIPMENT NO LONGER REQUIRED BY U.S. FORCES IN
SOUTHEAST ASIA HAS BEEN EITHER TURNED OVER TO VIETNAM OR
RETAINED IN U.S. INVENTORY, ACTIVE AND RESERVE, AND IS NOT
REPEAT NOT EXCESS TO U.S. NEEDS.

2. IN DRAWING ON ABOVE IN RESPONSE TO GOVGEN QUERY, CONGEN
MAY WISH FURTHER EXPLAIN THAT UNDER OUR SECURITY ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM, OUR MAAG IN ADDIS PERIODICALLY RECEIVES LISTING OF
USG EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES AND REVIEWS IT TO DETERMINE
THOSE ITEMS WHICH MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TO IEG NEEDS. IN
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RECENT YEARS USG HAS PROVIDED A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF

EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES TO ETHIOPIA, I.E., AIRCRAFT, RIFLES,
AMMO, RADIOS AND VEHICLES. WE SHALL CONTINUE FOLLOW THIS
PROCEDURE BUT, AS INDICATED ABOVE, VIETNAM UNLIKELY BE
SIGNIFICANT SOURCE OF ANY EXCESS EQUIPMENT. KISSINGER
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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